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India

FAIRS Product Specific

New Sanitary Conditions for Dairy Product Imports 2004

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Report Highlights:

Eight new conditions have to be fulfilled and certified on the official sanitary certificate to permit dairy product imports into India. Trade sources indicate that these conditions would effectively block dairy product imports from most countries, including the United States. These new conditions have not been notified to the WTO.

Includes PSD Changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Unscheduled Report
New Delhi [IN1]
[IN]

Introduction:

New requirements must be certified in the official sanitary/health certificate to export dairy products to India.

Disclaimer: This summary is based on a *cursory* review of the subject announcement, and therefore should not under any circumstances, be viewed as a definitive reading of the regulation in question, or of its implications for U.S. agricultural export trade interests.

Type of Import Requirement: Final (based on official letter)

Important Dates:

- **Publication Date:** March 12, 2004
- **Effective Date:** March 12, 2004
- **Date of Communication of the conditions:** March 12, 2004

Products Affected: Several dairy products and processed food products containing dairy product as ingredients.

Agency in Charge: Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying, Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India.

Proposed Conditions (quoted from official letter):

- I. The milk has been processed to make it fit for human consumption.
- II. The milk has been processed to a temperature, which ensures the destruction of organisms causing Tuberculosis, Listeriosis, Para-tuberculosis, Q-fever, and Brucellosis.
- III. The milk should not have objectionable levels of toxin produced by microbes as prescribed by national/international standards.
- IV. The animals from which the milk has been derived, were not subjected to the exposure of Bovine Growth Hormones (BGH)/ Bovine Somatotropin Hormones (BST).
- V. The source animals were not subjected to estrogenic treatment for the last 90 days.
- VI. If milk product contains animal rennet, it should be labeled.
- VII. The milk does not contain the drug/pesticides/heavy metal residues above the limits prescribed by Codex Alimentarius Commission.
- VIII. The source animals have never been fed with feeds produced from internal organs, blood meal, and tissues of ruminant origin.

Post Comment: These requirements, which are in force, have the potential to stop all dairy product shipments from the United States. According to trade sources, conditions IV and V would be hard to fulfill for most dairy exporting nations, including the United States. Post is working with the regional Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service office to evaluate the feasibility of incorporating these conditions in the APHIS/AMS certificates. These new conditions have not been notified to the WTO.

For More Information:

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